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NPIC/B-11/61
August 1961

PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION BRIEF

BIRA - SMIDOVICH SECTION
OF THE
TRANS - SIBERIAN RAILROAD



ARMY



NAVY



AIR FORCE



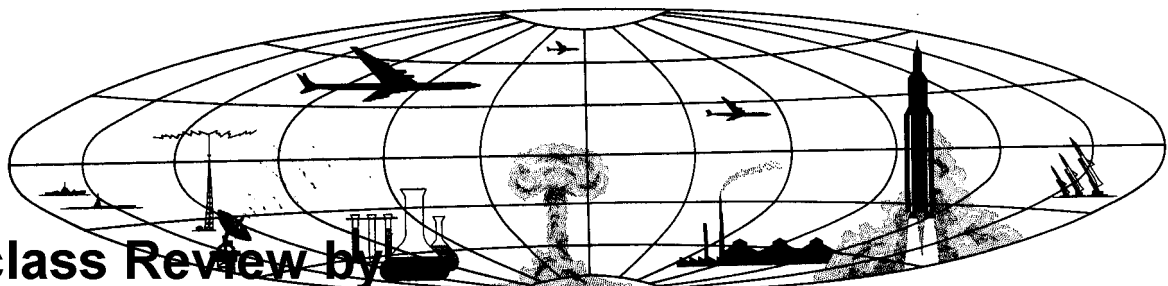
CIA

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NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER



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TOP SECRET CHESSE RUSS

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SEARCH FOR GUIDED MISSILE ACTIVITY AND ITEMS OF INTELLIGENCE INTEREST ALONG THE BIRA-SMIDOVICH SECTION OF THE TRANS-SIBERIAN RAILROAD, SOVIET FAR EAST

The 125-kilometer section of the Trans-Siberian Railroad between Bira (49-00N 132-28E) and Smidovich (48-36N 133-49E) was covered by fair quality KEYHOLE photography on [REDACTED] Most of this area had been covered by good quality TALENT photography of [REDACTED]

25X1D

25X1D

The photography of this area was studied and compared primarily to locate and describe any unidentified, unusual installations that might possibly be related to guided missile activity, and also to locate and identify any items of intelligence significance.

In the approximately 2,400-square-nautical-mile area covered by the accompanying photomosaic, no unidentified, unusual installations were observed that appeared to bear any relation to the Soviet guided missile program.

Items of intelligence interest were observed at the following locations. They are numbered to correspond to the numbers on the accompanying photomosaic.

LOCATION

ITEM

1. BIRA

Railroad yards and shops [REDACTED] Sawmill and Log storage area. A narrow-gauge railroad, at least 25 km long leads north to extensive logging areas.

25X1A

2. KURGA

Sawmill and log storage area. A narrow-gauge railroad, at least 30 km long leads NE to extensive logging areas.

3. BIROBIDZHAN

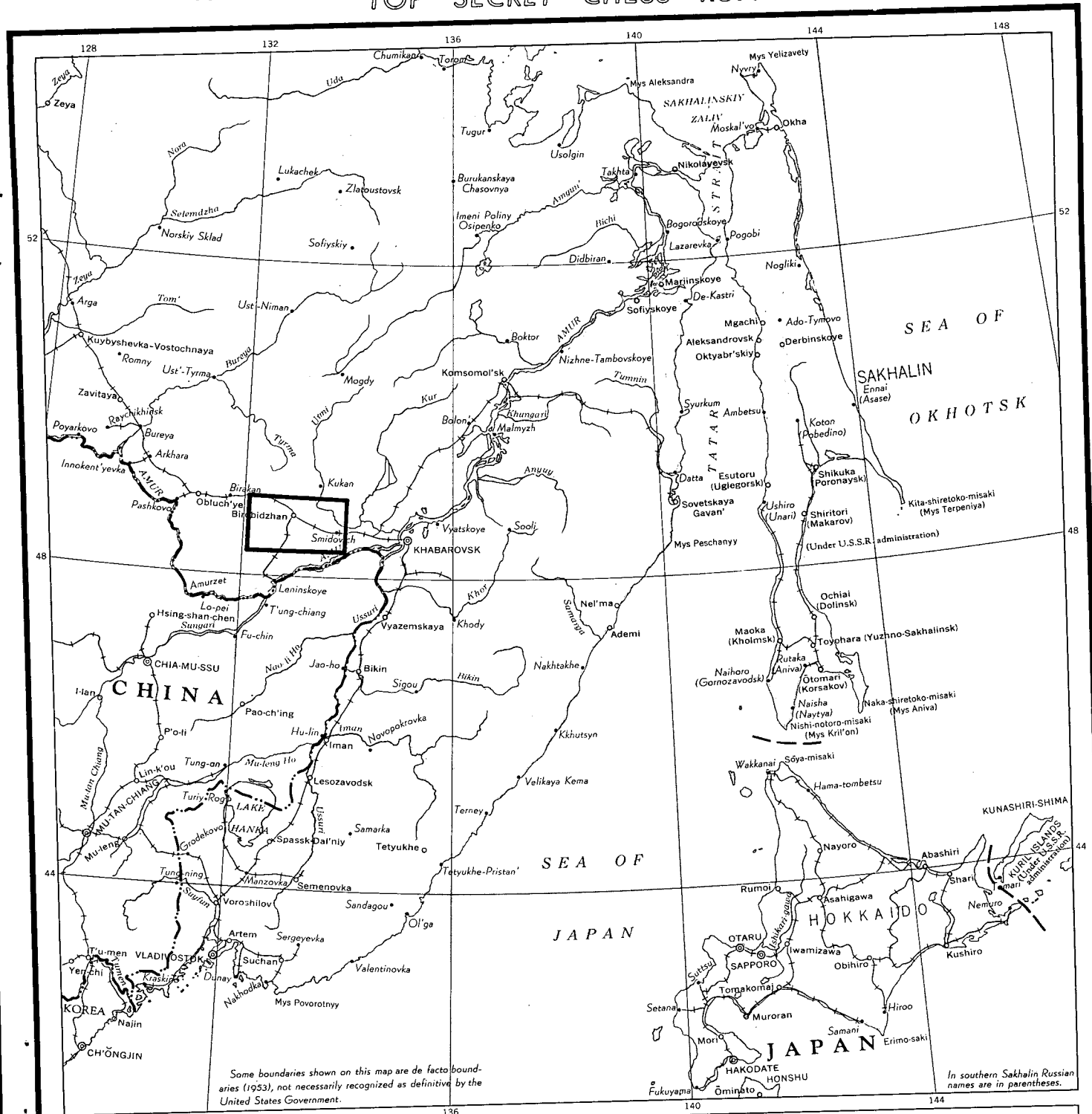
This important military, transportation and industrial center was cloud-covered on [REDACTED] KEYHOLE photography, but was covered by excellent TALENT photography in [REDACTED] Some of the intelligence items observed include the following:

25X1A

25X1A

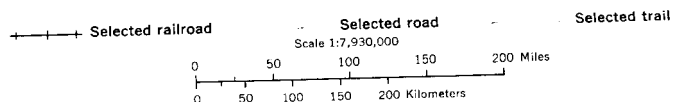
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U.S.S.R. VLADIVOSTOK-NIKOLAYEVSK AREA

FIGURE 1. LOCATION MAP. This map indicates the area shown on the photomosaic.



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TOP SECRET-CHESSE-RUFF

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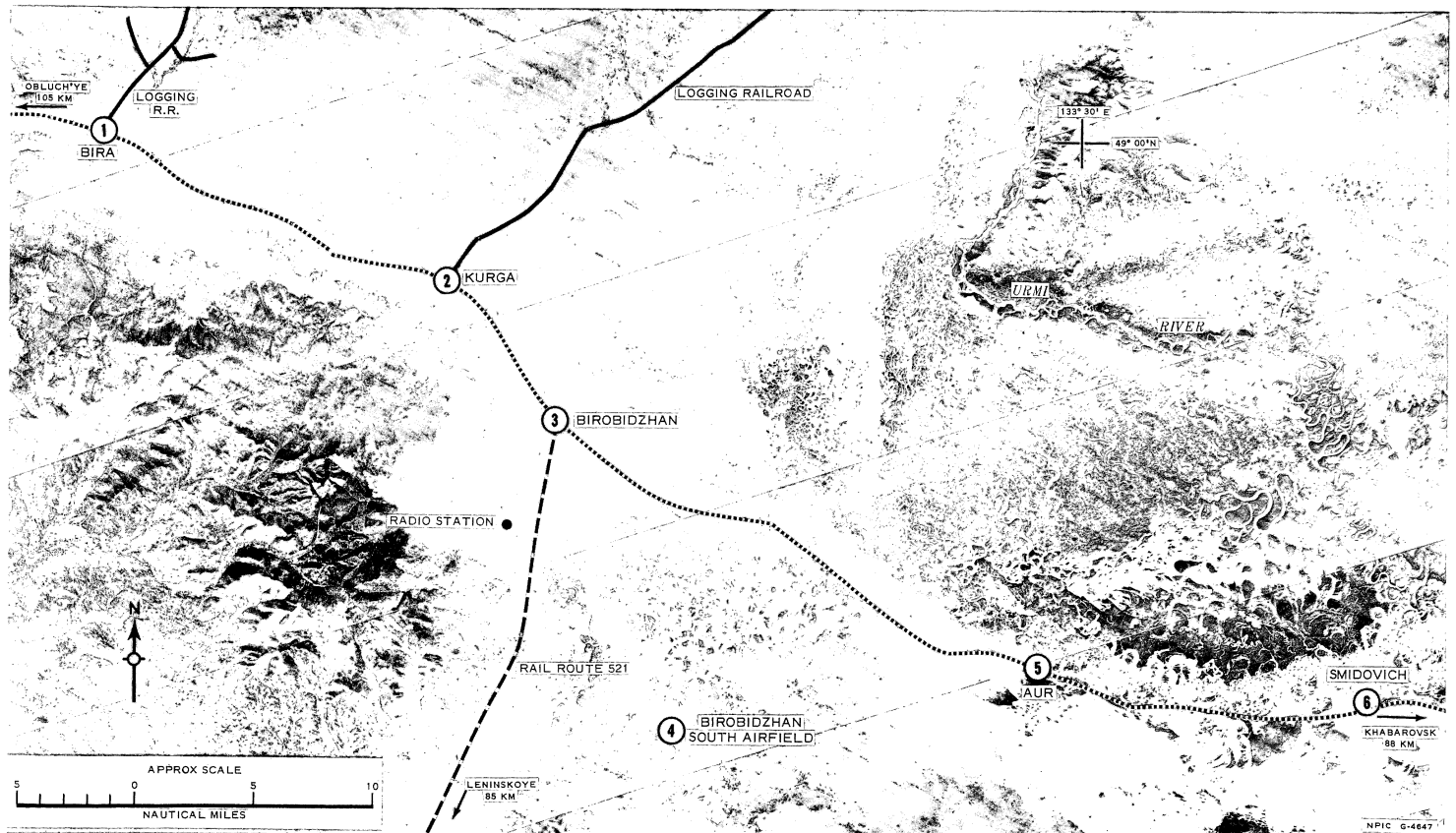


FIGURE 2. BIRA-SMIDOVICH SECTION OF TRANS-SIBERIAN RAILROAD, SOVIET FAR EAST.

TOP SECRET-CHESSE-RUFF

TOP SECRET CHESSE RUFF

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- Civil airfield [REDACTED]. Small, sod-
surface landing area, 1,800 by 1,400 feet (see
SAC DPIR-C49-58, Aug 58, TSC).
Railroad yards and shops [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Radio broadcasting facility [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Military barracks, ordnance and ammunition
depot, storage and training areas [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
4. BIROBIDZHAN SOUTH AIRFIELD Military airfield [REDACTED] Two con-
crete runways, each 3,000 feet long. On [REDACTED]
TALENT photography, the airfield area was
snow covered, and at that time was reported
to be abandoned and inactive (see SAC DPIR-
C50-58, Aug 58, TSC). However, on the later
KEYHOLE photography, the runways were
cleared of snow and the airfield appeared active.
5. AUR Large rail-served storage area. A rail spur,
1 km long, leads to a large, 4,000- by 700-foot,
open storage and warehouse area, traversed by
5-7 rail tracks.
6. SMIDOVICH Railroad yard and shops [REDACTED]

REFERENCES

[REDACTED]

CHARTS

- ACIC. WAC 203, 5th ed, Mar 57, scale 1:1,000,000 (U)
ACIC. WAC 204, 6th ed, Feb 57, scale 1:1,000,000 (U)

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25X1D

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DOCUMENTS

- USAF. Bombing Encyclopedia, 4th ed, May 61 (S)
- CIA. NIS Gazetteer, Mar 59 (OUO)
- CIA. OCR/IR town folders and plant dossiers (S)

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